

In the Abstract:

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(57) Abstract: The invention provides a dryer for drying particulate material, comprising at least one substantially vertical elongate container having: an upper inlet for receiving a charge of moisture containing particulate material; a lower outlet for discharging dried particulate material, whereby ~~said~~ the particulate material travels under the influence of gravity from ~~said~~ the inlet to ~~said~~ the outlet; at least one substantially vertical gas permeable wall through which a drying gas can pass to contact ~~said~~ the particulate material; ~~said~~ the dryer also comprising at least one plenum on an exterior surface of ~~said~~ the at least one gas permeable wall, covering ingress and egress openings within ~~said~~ the at least one gas permeable wall.